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Claim 17: A method for enhancing delivery of oxygen to tissue, comprising applying to said tissue a composition consisting essentially of a first compound which, when applied to said tissue, is converted to a vasodilator compound, wherein said first compound has a log Po/w value below about 6.0.

Claim 18: The method of claim 17, wherein said first compound has a log Po/w value of from about 4.5 to about 5.5.

Claim 19: The method of claim 17, wherein said first compound is an ester.

Claim 20: The method of claim 19, wherein said ester is an alcohol ester.

Claim 21: The method of claim 19, wherein said ester contains an alkyl chain of from 1 to 11 carbon atoms.

Claim 22: The method of claim 21, wherein said ester contains an alkyl chain of from 6 to 10 carbon atoms.

Claim 23: The method of claim 21, wherein said ester contains an alkyl chain of from 8 to 10 carbon atoms.

Claim 24: The method of claim 20, wherein said alcohol ester is a niacin alcohol ester.

Claim 25: The method of claim 17, wherein said first compound is present in an amount ranging from about 0.05% to about 5.0% by weight of said composition.

Claim 26: The method of claim 25, wherein said first compound is present in an amount ranging from about 0.1% to about 1.0% by weight of said composition.

Claim 27: The method of claim 1, wherein said composition is in the form of a cream, a lotion, a salve, a balm, a roll-on stick, a shampoo, a wash, or a suppository.

Claim 28: The method of claim 17, wherein said composition contains an ester of a compound which does not have a vasodilatory effect.

Claim 29: The method of claim 28, wherein said ester of a compound which does not have a vasodilatory effect is butyl benzoate.